



Date of Notice

of Allowance : December 5, 2007

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 5, 2008.

Sarah C. Cauranga Sarah C. Carranceja

Applicant

Xian Yao, et al.

Confirmation No. 5454

Application No.

: 10/731,710

Filed

: December 9, 2003

Title

METHOD FOR FORMING ULTRA HARD SINTERED COMPACTS

USING METALLIC PERIPHERAL STRUCTURES IN THE

SINTERING CELL

Grp./Div.

1793

Examiner

: ZHU, Weiping

Docket No.

: 50547/M277

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068 Pasadena, CA 91109-7068 March 5, 2008

Commissioner:

Reasons for allowance are only warranted in instances in which "the record of the prosecution as a whole does not make clear his or her reasons for allowing a claim or claims." (37 CFR § 1.104(e)).

Applicant believes the Examiner's stated reasons for allowance are unnecessary. The applicant does not necessarily agree with each statement in the reasons for allowance. While applicant agrees that the claims are allowable, applicant does not acquiesce with each statement

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in the reasons for allowance, that patentability requires each stated feature exactly as expressed by the Examiner, nor that each stated feature is required for patentability.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE BARKER & HALE, LLP

Constantine Marantidis

Reg. No. 39,759 626/795-9900

CM/scc

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TRANSMITTAL OF DRAWINGS

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Post Office Box 7068 Pasadena, CA 91109-7068 March 5, 2008

Commissioner:

Enclosed are 6 sheets of drawings for this application. They are submitted as formal drawings to replace the corresponding informal drawings originally filed.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTIE BARKER & HALE, LLP

By Constantine Marantidi

Reg. No. 39,759

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